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MEMORANDUM FOR: Asst. Director/ORA

3 April 1957

FROM : [REDACTED] 25X1A

SUBJECT : A Coordinated Feasibility Evaluation
of OW Areas

1. As you know your Geography Division has, for the past year, been engaged in feasibility evaluations of selective Evasion and Escape (E and E) Areas and Unconventional Warfare (OW) Areas submitted separately by the Strategic Air Command (SAC), by Hq. US Air Force, and [REDACTED]. These areas had been selected independently and without coordination by various military commands, a fact which resulted in considerable incompatibility and excessive requirements.

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2. An informal working group composed of representatives of the Army, the Navy, the Air Force and [REDACTED] has considered this problem and has proposed a country by country feasibility evaluation for the several types of areas required. Details of the problem and of the proposed solution are given in the attached Memorandum for the Record prepared by the informal working group.

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3. The working group (whose members include Col. E. M. Pike, Chief, Special Operations Division and Major J. T. Mossdrop AFOTW for the Air Force; Major T. E. Wesson, for the Army; and [REDACTED] has expressed the wish to meet in conference with you and the Chiefs of your Geographic Research, and Geography and Cartography Divisions, to discuss the details of the proposed study. I am informed that they will request that the related projects now in process for SAC, for the USAF and [REDACTED] by your Geographic and Cartographic Divisions be set aside, if necessary, in order to give first priority to this coordinated feasibility study. As far as [REDACTED] is concerned, this action has my approval. I assume that the USAF representative of the group will obtain, and inform you of, the approval of his Service.

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4. I attach great importance to the task which this working group has undertaken, and ask that you give it your full support. [REDACTED] (Ext. 3097) can serve as your contact with the group. I have instructed him to arrange, with you, the details of the meeting proposed in paragraph 3 above.

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Enclosure

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